

Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ADP-00 COA-02 EB-11 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 ACDA-19 AEC-11 AECE-00 CG-00

COME-00 IO-12 DOTE-00 FMC-04 INT-08 JUSE-00 NSF-04

OMB-01 RSR-01 /174 W

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P R 221725 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1369

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 05988

E. O. 11652: XDGS

TAGS: EFIS, PBOR, PFOR, XN, US

SUBJECT: LOS AND NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES

REF: (A) LONDON 5866, (B) STATE 86290, (C) STATE 86329

1. WE TOOK UP LAW OF THE SEA IMPLICATIONS OF US ICNAF
PROBLEMS WITH HARRY DUDGEON, SENIOR FCO OFFICER ON LOS
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MATTERS UNDER SIR ROGER JACKLING. DUDGEON HAD JUST RETURNED FROM LEAVE BUT BEFORE WE SAW HIM HE HAD HAD BRIEFING ON DCM' S REPRESENTATIONS TO LADY TWEEDSMUIR AND EMBOFF' S CONTACT WITH MEMBER HIS STAFF (REF (A)). WE PRESENTED DUDGEON WITH TALKING PAPER INCORPORATING POINTS A THROUGH C OF REF (B), FLESHED OUT WITH THEMES DRAWN FROM REF (C).

2. DUDGEON' S INITIAL REACTION WAS THAT, BASED ON PAPERS HE HAD EXAMINED AND BRIEFING HE HAD RECEIVED, US APPROACH WAS NOT MOST FELICITOUS WAY OF GOING ABOUT SOLVING PROBLEM. ALTHOUGH HE COULD FULLY APPRECIATE US FRUSTRATIONS WITH ADMINISTRATION OF ICNAF, HE FELT THREAT TO DENOUNCE CONVENTION WAS NOT PROPER METHOD GAINING US OBJECTIVES, GIVEN ENORMOUS STAKE OF BOTH US AND UK IN SUCCESSFUL LOS CONFERENCE. HE REITERATED UK OFFERS OF COOPERATION WITH US IN ACHIEVING BEST POSSIBLE INTERNATIONAL REGIME GOVERNING FISHERIES OFF NEW ENGLAND COAST.

3. HE AGREED ENTIRELY WITH OUR ASSESSMENT THAT HMG OPPOSES UNILATERAL EXTENSION BY COASTAL STATE OF FISHERIES ZONES AND THAT BRITISH BELIEVE LOS TREATY SHOULD PROVIDE FOR BOTH COASTAL AND DISTANT WATER FISHING INTERESTS. REGIONAL FISHERIES COMMISSIONS SUCH AS ICNAF SHOULD HAVE GREATER ROLE IN ACCOMMODATING CONCERNS OF LOCAL AND DISTANT CLAIMS TO FISH RESOURCES, AND SHOULD BE STRENGTHENED RATHER THAN DISCARDED. DUDGEON SAID HE THOUGHT US AND UK HAD SAME END IN VIEW BUT MAY DIFFER SOMEWHAT ON MEANS TO ACHIEVE GOAL. HE DEEPLY REGRETTED THAT US FELT OBLIGED TO CONSIDER WITHDRAWING FROM CONVENTION AND HOPED THAT SUCH CONSIDERATION WOULD RESULT IN DECISION TO CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE AS PARTY TO TREATY. HE FELT CONFIDENT THAT ICNAF WOULD FIND WAYS TO MEET US CONCERNS.

4. DUDGEON POSED TWO QUESTIONS: HE ASKED (1) IF HE COULD HAVE A STATEMENT OF THE EXACT POINTS OF US CONCERN IN THE MALADMINISTRATION OF THE ICNAF. (THE PAPER PRESENTED BY EMBOFF TO IAN GRAHAM (REF (A) PARA 7), WHICH DUDGEON HAD NOT SEEN, MAY SATISFY HIM ON THIS

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SCORE); AND (2) PRECISELY WHAT CONSEQUENCES WE SEE IN TERMS IMPACT ON LOS IF US SHOULD WITHDRAW FROM CONVENTION. PLEASE ADVISE ON RESPONSES TO THESE QUESTIONS.

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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